

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of determining the shape of a dental prosthesis comprising the steps of:
 - a) scanning at least a connecting portion (14) of a preparation-(10), wherein the preparation comprises a first anchor (12) and a connecting portion (14) connected thereto;
 - b) forming a physical model on the connecting portion (14) to produce a pontic (22); and
 - c) scanning at least the pontic (22)whereby the surface of the first anchor (12) is also scanned during a scanning step whereby the scanning steps can be carried out in either order.
2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein, during a scanning step, the preparation (10) is scanned to provide data concerning relative locations of the first anchor (12) and connecting portion-(14).
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein, data concerning the relative locations is used to align data obtained during the scanning steps.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 1 wherein, in addition to producing a physical model of a pontic-(22), connectors (22a,22b) which connect the pontic (22) to the first anchor (12) are also produced and wherein said connectors are scanned.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein, connectors (22a,22b) which connect the pontic (22) to the first anchor (12) are created by applying mathematical rules to data collected during the scanning processes.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~ wherein, data produced when the first anchor (12) is scanned is used to calculate an offset.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~ wherein, data produced when at least the connecting portion (22) is scanned is used to calculate an offset.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a model of a dental prosthesis comprising the steps of:

scanning a preparation (10) having different features (12,14,16) to provide data concerning the relative locations of the different features within the preparation wherein the different features include a first anchor (12) and a connecting portion-(14);

dividing a preparation into the different features (12,14,16);

individually scanning the different features (12,14,16) of the preparation; and

producing a model of a dental prosthesis by aligning data from the individual scans using the data concerning relative locations of the different features (12,14,16) within the preparation-(10).

9. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a dental prosthesis comprising:

determining the shape of a dental prosthesis according to ~~any preceding claim 1~~; and producing the shape of the dental prosthesis from a ceramic former.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein, the dental prosthesis is coated with porcelain.

11. (Currently Amended) A dental prosthesis produced according to ~~any preceding claim 1.~~

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